



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

September 23, 2004

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **WR-4**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**METEOROLOGICAL WEATHER FORECASTING SERVICES  
AWARD CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT  
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS  
3 VOTES**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

Award and authorize the Chief Engineer of the Flood Control District, or his designee, to execute a consultant services agreement with North American Weather Consultants to provide weather consulting services for the 2004-05 storm season for a not to exceed annual fee of \$40,000 with the option to extend the services for two additional one-year terms for a maximum aggregate not to exceed fee of \$120,000 to be financed by the Fiscal Year 2004-05 Flood Control District budget, and establish the effective contract date following your Board's approval.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

We are recommending that your Board award and authorize the Chief Engineer of the Flood Control District to execute a consultant services agreement with North American Weather Consultants and establish the effective contract date following your Board's approval.

Since 1951, Public Works has contracted with weather consultants to service our weather forecasting needs. Weather forecasting services have been valuable to Public Works during past storm seasons. Rainfall forecasts were provided at locations of special interest, and special consultation was provided about the risk of continuing rainfall. This information is vital for making decisions regarding water conservation and flood control operations at Public Works' dams and groundwater recharge facilities.

The forecasting services include annual, monthly, weekly, and daily outlooks. The weather forecasts are also posted on the Public Works' Intranet page for use by various Divisions in making operational decisions affecting our other facilities and projects.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

Awarding this agreement will meet the County Strategic Plan Goal of Organizational Effectiveness since the expertise and experience needed to perform the required services are not available in Public Works.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no impact to the County's General Fund. Financing for this agreement is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-05 Flood Control District budget.

The anticipated annual cost of services for the 2004-05 storm season is \$28,625. This allows for a contingency fund of \$11,375 for any additional or unforeseen work should the storm season exceed normal rainfall amounts. The agreement is for an annual not to exceed fee of \$40,000, which constitutes an aggregate not to exceed fee of \$120,000 for a total of three storm seasons.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

A standard consultant services agreement, previously approved as to form by County Counsel, will be used. The agreement will be for a term of one year with two one-year renewable options. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for termination of services, renegotiation, and hiring qualified displaced County employees will be included.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the agreement stating that the consultant shall notify its employees, and shall require each subconsultant to notify its employees, about Board Policy 5.135, the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, and that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

As requested by your Board on August 12, 1997, and as a threshold requirement for consideration for contract award, North American Weather Consultants is willing to consider Greater Avenues for Independence Program/General Relief Opportunity for Work participants for future employment.

North American Weather Consultants is in full compliance with Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.200 (Child Support Compliance Program) and Chapter 2.203 (Contractor Employee Jury Service Program).

We have evaluated and determined that the Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to the recommended agreement as this agreement is for non-Proposition A services.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

A finding of environmental impact is not required for the award of this consultant services agreement.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On July 19, 2004, Public Works issued Request for Proposals (RFP) to 11 firms for the project. Two firms, North American Weather Consultants and Fox Weather, LLC, responded to the RFP. The Evaluation Committee composed of Department staff evaluated the written proposals. The firms were evaluated based on criteria outlined in the RFP, which included technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. These evaluations were completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. Based on this evaluation, Public Works selected North American Weather Consultants as the best qualified firm to perform these services. The negotiated fees have been reviewed by Public Works and are considered reasonable for the services provided.

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Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the project is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. North American Weather Consultants is aware of our CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, and to further increase consultant awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, this contract was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The project will have no adverse impact on current services.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE  
Interim Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)